

A FEW RECOLLECTIONS FROM THE SERMON
PREACHED BY CANON SCOTT HOLLAND AT THE
CLOSE OF THE P.N.E.U. CONFERENCE.

It was the hour of our Lord's one triumph (Mat. xxi., 12-17): that triumph which He *would* have, and for which He had prepared for fully six months beforehand. That it should lead to His final rejection, and immediate death He knew, but He *would* have it, the hour had come, and His heart longed for this one acceptance of His kingship by His own people. He had lived for this; He could not go away without it.

He knew that the children would give it to Him; how, they would find out in their own way, but He would have His Hosanna, clear and ringing from their own hearts.

He had gone up to the Temple of His Father, as it was soon to be expedient for Him to go up, up to that Father's glorious Temple yonder; and in stern indignation He had driven out from it the men, the cattle, and the dirt, and all that defiled the place of God's abode. It was the symbol of our ascension, our passing up to Him day by day, onwards to the Throne of God. Out of the temples of His Presence must be cast forth all that is unholy, all that makes for gain. There were two classes in the Temple at Jerusalem who remained — those two classes that are always in the Temple of God, the children and the sufferers; from them Christ always has His Hosanna.

No one could prevent those children, no not their elders who thought they knew so much better. These were the prophets of God. They knew, and knew notwithstanding the impediments put in their way by those grown-up people. Their hearts were the Temples of Truth; God was there; He must know Himself. No matter if those elders said they were in the way, did not know anything about it, were only children. Christ was passing by; from them He could receive the Hosanna He longed to hear. It is ever so; the child knows, the child in us will know, if we will set it free, for we have our child-heart still, praise God.

And these children that we love as our own life, who are our own life, for whom we could not do enough, what of them? What can we do for them? We can do nothing. It is God who will do it. It is always so, in this as in other things. We must take all the pains we can, and do our uttermost, then when we have done this, and made it possible for God, He will do it without us. Christ is passing by; the children will find their own way to Him, but we must set them free, take the obstacles out of their way. God is in them; He will find them; the God-life is there and must find its way out. We must stand aside; we must leave the child to God. And we shall marvel as we see the change in them, as each one goes on and up, bringing forth things we should not have dreamt of, and doing things we should never have thought of for them. Only we must stand aside, we must let the life of the God-man within them take its own way; we must not hinder them. The child must go its own way, not ours; it is they who will teach us, not we them.

And if in the days to come they should join that other class, that of the sufferers, we must do the same — leave them to God. Christ is passing by; He will understand, He will heal them, and forth from their hearts will come the Hosanna He waits for, the Hosanna which He must have.

ALICE E. A. MARTIN.